

ENVIRONMENTAL RANKING CRITERIA

Northern Panhandle 2004

Points can only be earned when there is an environmental concern to be addressed by the implementation of a Conservation Management System. If the applicant is already doing the conservation practice that eliminates an environmental concern, then points will not be assigned.

Name: _____

Address: _____

FSN: _____ Tract: _____ Total Points: _____

For the practices below, the following terms will be defined as:
Managed Intensive Grazing System – Livestock are moved every 1-4 days during the grazing season. 11 or more paddocks are established in such a way as to lend themselves to rotating livestock frequently with relative ease. Paddocks may be established using polywire for final subdivision, though polywire is not cost-shared.

Rotational Grazing System – Livestock are moved every 5-8 days. 5-10 paddocks are established in order to rotate livestock with relative ease. Paddocks may be established using polywire for final subdivision, though polywire is not cost-shared.

Continuous Grazing System – All other systems

Best Management Practice Points (Choose all the apply)

_____ Will better utilize pastureland by implementing prescribed grazing.
Managed Intensive Grazing System = 25 points
Rotational Grazing System = 15 points

_____ Will install water systems for livestock. (Use definitions above)
Portable watering system for intensive rotational grazing = 25 points
Watering systems that serve rotational grazing systems = 15 points
Other watering systems = 5 points

_____ Will develop or establish a water source for livestock.
= 20 points

_____ Subtotal Page 1

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|-------|---|-------------------|
| _____ | Will install pasture division fence in order to better utilize pastures. | |
| | Intensive Grazing System is established | = 20 points |
| | Rotational Grazing System is established | = 15 points |
| | Pasture division resulting in fewer that 5 paddocks
(see above definitions) | = 5 points |
| _____ | Will manage soil nutrients as recommended by soil test.
(Modifications to soil test recommendations may be made
by a Certified Nutrient Management Consultant.) | = 20 points |
| _____ | Will reduce contaminants and nutrient entering streams and water courses
by installation of: | |
| | Winter Feeding Pad | = 20 points |
| | Stream Crossing / Equipment Access | = 20 points |
| | Animal Waste Storage Facility | = 30 points |
| | Waste Utilization according to a Comprehensive Plan | = 10 points |
| | Livestock Exclusion from Streams (with buffer) | = 10 points |
| _____ | Will improve plant condition by reseeding poor stands | = 10 points |
| _____ | Will establish warm season grasses to benefit wildlife. | = 10 points |
| _____ | Will establish suitable vegetation on critically eroding areas. | = 10 points |
| _____ | Will establish vegetation or protection on eroding stream banks. | = 10 points |
| _____ | Will reduce sheet and rill erosion on cropland by installing one or more: | |
| | Conservation Crop Rotation | _____ |
| | Cover Crop | _____ |
| | Contour Farming | _____ |
| | Filter Strips | _____ |
| | Grassed Waterway | _____ |
| | 5 points for each practice - | maximum 25 points |
| _____ | Will enhance water quality by establishing vegetation on riparian areas. | |
| | Riparian Forest Planting | = 15 points |
| | Herbaceous Planting | = 15 points |
| _____ | Will exclude livestock from woodland. | = 15 points |
| _____ | Will convert grazed land too steep to properly manage to woodland. | = 10 points |
| _____ | Will extend grazing past October 15 th . | = 5 points |
| | Subtotal Page 2 | |

Priority Points (Choose only one of the following items)

- _____ Pasture Utilization – If the practices planned will treat all resources or concern for the entire pasture system (RMS level). 50 points
- _____ Pasture Improvement – If the practices planned will treat individual fields or all pastureland but will not address all resources of concern (below RMS level). 20 points
- _____ Surface Water Quality – If the practices planned address reduction of surface water contamination via livestock. 10 points
- _____ Plant Condition – If the practices planned address the health and vigor of forage plants on a livestock or equine enterprise. 5 points

_____ Subtotal Page 3

_____ Total for all pages

Maximum 315